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Revised

A Plan
OF THE
ESSEX DISPENSARY,

FOR ADMINISTERING

ADVICE AND MEDICINES

GRATIS,

TO THE POOR INHABITANTS OF

COLCHESTER,

AND PLACES ADJACENT,

At the Dispensary, or at their own Habitations.

Instituted in the Year 1797.

The Rt. Hon. Lord BRAYBROOKE, — PRESIDENT,

The Rt. Hon. Lord MUNCASTER, M. P. }
R. THORNTON, Esq. M. P. } *Vice Presidents*
ISAAC BOGGIS, Esq. Jun. }

A. LARA, Esq. — Treasurer.

LOFTUS WOOD, M. D. — Physicians.

COLCHESTER,

PRINTED BY I. MARSDEN.



INTRODUCTION.

AS the strength of a nation is, in a great measure, proportioned to the number of its inhabitants, and as the Poor constitute an important part of every large community, they justly merit the attention and assistance of the Rich and Opulent, especially in Sickness; when they are rendered incapable of supporting themselves and families. The Poor, from unwholesome food and exposure to the various changes of the air, from occasional want of employment, and of proper clothing, are subject to many disorders, unknown to those whose affluence can procure the conveniencies of life. In order to obviate these evils many charitable Institutions have been founded in this kingdom; as Hospitals, Parish Workhouses, &c. but upon examination it is found that these were only proper for a certain Class of Patients, and not even sufficient to accommodate a third part of those who stood in need of relief: many, from a decent pride, did not choose to be found in these places of public Charity; whilst the affairs of others might be ruined by quitting their habitations: some, from the nature of their disorders, became worse by their being pent up in impure air: without mentioning the contagion incident to such places of confinement. Those who were unable to see a regular Physician, had often recourse to Quacks, who flattered them with the hopes of a cure, till the devoted victims, daily exhausted of health and means, either paid the great debt of nature, or were necessitated to implore the benefit of those Institutions, which some time before they could not think of entering, but with horror: but
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this resolution often came too late,—when the disease was past the power of remedy. The opulent and charitable therefore sought means to supply these deficiencies, and, happily for mankind, conceived the plan of PUBLIC DISPENSARIES, for the relief of the Poor, at their own habitations: many advantages arise from hence,—the various disorders are treated apart, free from the noise, impurities, or confinement of an Hospital, or a Workhouse, and from every species of contagion;—a very great number of Patients, and those too of the most useful part of the Poor, namely, those of indigent circumstances, and not chargeable to their parishes, are by these means accommodated at a small expense, and have the advantage of being nursed at their own habitations, by their own friends and dearest connections.

The great number of labouring Poor who live in this Town, makes it obvious how very useful such a Charity must be; and, from the former proofs of the benevolence of the inhabitants, it is not doubted but this Establishment will meet with their general approbation and encouragement.

REGULATIONS.

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1.—THIS Charity shall consist of a President, Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, Collector, and Governors, together with such Medical Officers as shall from time to time be deemed necessary.

2.—Every person subscribing One Guinea per annum shall be a Governor, and entitled to have one patient upon the medical list at a time; and in case of a greater subscription, a proportional number.

3.—Every person who pays Ten Guineas in one year, shall be a Governor for life, without paying any further subscription.

4.—Every patient who brings a Letter of Recommendation from a Governor, shall receive advice and medicines from the Dispensary, without regard to place of abode.

5.—Patients who are unable to attend the Physician at the Dispensary, and reside in the town of Colchester, Lexden, or Mile-End, shall be visited at their own habitations, when necessary.

6.—The President, Vice Presidents, Treasurer, and Medical Officers, constitute a standing Committee, for conducting the affairs of the Charity.—Three form a Quorum.

7.—Patients whose disorders are only surgical are not at present admitted.

RULES

To be observed by the Patients.

1.—OUT Patients shall attend Doctor Wood, the Physician, at the Dispensary, Head Gate, Colchester, on Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday forenoon, between eight and ten o'clock.

2.—Home Patients shall send their Letters of Recommendation to the above mentioned place, on the above mentioned days and hours.

N. B. By out Patients are to be understood such, whose disorders do not confine them.—By home Patients, such as are absolutely unable to attend, but who reside in Colchester, Lexden, the Hythe, and Mile-End. A Letter of Recommendation only serves for one Month.

3.—If any Patient, for the space of ten days, neglect to attend at the Dispensary, or if confined, neglect to send word to the Physician, such Patient shall be discharged.

4.—Patients shall furnish themselves with phials, &c. necessary to contain their medicines.

5.—Patients shall behave themselves soberly and decently, and shall strictly conform themselves to such rules as shall be given them, on pain of dismissal from the Charity.

6.—Patients when cured, shall return thanks to the Governors who recommended them; on neglect of which, they shall not receive any future favour from this Charity.

N. B. This Rule is necessary, that Governors may know when they have or have not Patients on the list.

**AN ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF THE
GOVERNORS.**

A

Mr. Thomas Andrews, *Colchester.*

B

The Rt. Hon. Lord Braybrooke, **PRESIDENT.**

Isaac Boggis, Esq. *Colchester, v. p.*

W. Boyfield, Esq. *Dedham.*

Mr. J. K. Bowland, *Colchester.*

C

Francis Child, Esq. *ditto.*

Horatio Cock, Esq. **SURGEON,** *ditto.*

D

Major Douglas, *56th Reg. ditto.*

Mr. Cater Day, **SURGEON,** *ditto.*

Mr. John Day, **DITTO,** *ditto.*

F

Henry Fearon, Esq. **SURGEON,** *Adelphi, London.*

G

The Rt. Hon. Lady Grantham, *London.*

D. OGrady, Esq. *Colchester.*

Mr.

H

Mr. John Hunt, *Colchester.*

Mr. John Hodges, *ditto.*

I—J

K

Mr. John Kendal, *ditto.*

Charles King, Esq. *ditto.*

L

The Rt. Hon. Lady Lucas, *London.*

A. Lara, Esq. *Colchester*, TREASURER.

M

The Rt. Hon. Lord Muncaster, *v. p.*

W. Mason, Esq. *Colchester.*

Rev. F. C. Mustard, *Lexden.*

P

The Rt. Hon. Earl Pomfret, *London.*

The Rt. Hon. Countess Pomfret, *ditto.*

Mrs. Purvis, *Colchester.*

R

Major Slater Rebow, *ditto.*

Rev.

GOVERNORS.

S

Rev. Mr. Storry, *Colchester.*

T

R. Thornton, Esq. M. P. V. P.

Mr. S. Tabor, *Colchester.*

Mr. James Thorn, *ditto.*

Mr. W. Taylor, CHYMIST, *ditto.*

Mr. Newton Tills, SURGEON, *ditto.*

W

Rev. W. Ward, *Mile-End, Essex.*

Mrs. Wood, *Colchester.*

Mrs. Wade, *ditto.*

Mr. J. Watkins, *ditto.*

Loftus Wood, M. D. *ditto.*

John Watson, Esq. *Horksley, Essex.*

Y

Rev. P. Yorke, *Great Horksley, Essex.*

Mr. W. Younghusband, *Colchester.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS are received for this institution, by A. Lara, Esq. Treasurer; at the Dispensary, by Dr. Wood; and by W. Hedge, the Collector; all of Colchester.

STATE

STATE of this CHARITY.

PATIENTS admitted into the Essex Dispensary
from its first institution, May 1st, 1797; till the
1st of April, 1798: being eleven months.

Males,	31	Cured,	33
Females,	38	Relieved,	19
		Discharged, not attending,	4
		Dead,	2
		Remaining in the Charity,	9
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Total,	69	Total,	69
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